

FRENCH INDO-CHINA

throughout the delta until, on December 25th, envoys brought word of KErfs orders to make peace. Just prior to this event, a new compBcatkm— the Chinese Black Flags— had entered upon the scene. Gamier was fatally interrupted in a campaign he was planning against by die arrival of Hue's envoys. In the midst of negotiations with them, he heard that the Chinese were marching on Hanoi. Leading a from the citadel in person, Gamier became separated from his tad was **kilted** by the Black Flags at the Paper Bridge, just outside of the city. Although the attack was a failure, his death was an irre-for it delayed by ten years the conquest of Tonkin. The fright of the Annamite Court was only exceeded by that of and Admiral Dupre. Mindful that he had gone counter to his in a policy which only success would have justified, Dupr⁶ Gamier in order to avoid being himself recalled. The believing that Gamier⁷'s death had fatally jeopardized the imdertaking, peremptorily ordered him to negotiate with Annam, and to give up die idea of a Tonkinese conquest. Dupre's choice of a was also in accordance with Paris's instruc- He PULastee, a man of encyclopedic learning in regard to of long local experience. Dupre had already in his Tokmese project without, however, having taken **hk** full confidence. Duprf now only persuaded PMlastre to by saying that Gamier had exceeded his instruc- he the whole truth, Philastre was greatly em- he made was his attempt to make amends to the which he sincerely admired. In reality, no the of righteousness, for it was a duel of mutual

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m sofotdgn of Cochin-China, thus merely
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opened

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